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Amendments to the Claims

PLEASE CANCEL ALL PENDING CLAIMS 1-9. Please add new claims
10 through 165 as set forth below:

1 1-9. (Cancelled)

1 10. (new) A method for simplifying telephonic calling,

2 comprising:

3 designating a destination area code;

4 the user specifying a seven-digit telephone number; and

5 causing said call to be signaled using the designated

6 destination area code in combination with the specified seven-

7 digit telephone number, without the user entering said designated

8 destination area code when specifying said seven-digit telephone

9 number.

1 11. (new) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

2 determining that said designated destination area code is not

3 required to properly signal said call; and

4 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be

5 signaled without using said designated destination area code.

1 12. (new) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

2 associating a plurality of area code selectors with a

3 plurality of area codes;

4 the user selecting one of said area code selectors and

5 thereby selecting its associated area code; and

6 causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code

7 in combination with said specified seven-digit telephone number,

8 without the user entering said selected area code when specifying

9 said seven-digit telephone number.

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1 13. (new) The method of claim 12, further comprising:
2 determining that said selected area code is not required to
3 properly signal said call; and
4 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be
5 signaled without using said selected area code.

1 14. (new) The method of claim 12, said associating said
2 plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes
3 comprising:
4 the user associating said plurality of area code selectors
5 with said plurality of area codes.

1 15. (new) The method of claim 12, further comprising:
2 changing at least one of the associations to a different
3 association.

1 16. (new) The method of claim 15, further comprising:
2 the user changing at least one of the associations to a
3 different association.

1 17. (new) The method of claim 12, said associating said
2 plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes
3 comprising:
4 a provider of telecommunications services associating said
5 plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area
6 codes.

1 18. (new) The method of claim 12, said associating said
2 plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes
3 comprising:
4 computerized equipment associating said plurality of area
5 code selectors with said plurality of area codes.

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1 19. (new) The method of claim 12, said associating said
2 plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes
3 comprising:

4 associating said plurality of area code selectors with said
5 plurality of area codes based on an area code configuration.

1 20. (new) The method of claim 19, said area code configuration
2 comprising area code overlays.

1 21. (new) The method of claim 19, said area code configuration
2 comprising area code splits.

1 22. (new) The method of claim 12, said selecting one of said
2 area code selectors comprising:

3 activating a predetermined data entry key.

1 23. (new) The method of claim 12, further comprising causing
2 said call to be signaled using digits representing said selected
3 area code in combination with digits representing said specified
4 seven-digit telephone number.

1 24. (new) The method of claim 12, further comprising causing
2 said call to be signaled using signaling information representing
3 said selected area code in combination with signaling information
4 representing said specified seven-digit telephone number.

1 25. (new) The method of claim 12, further comprising using a
2 call-originating device for: associating said plurality of area
3 codes with said plurality of area code selectors, selecting said
4 selected area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone number,
5 and causing said call to be signaled.

1 26. (new) The method of claim 12, further comprising using
2 customer premises equipment separate from and connected to a call-

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3 originating device, in combination with said call-originating
4 device, for: associating said plurality of area codes with said
5 plurality of area code selectors, selecting said selected area
6 code, specifying said seven-digit telephone number, and causing
7 said call to be signaled.

1 27. (new) The method of claim 12, further comprising using
2 telecommunications service provider equipment separate from and
3 connected to a call-originating device, in combination with said
4 call-originating device, for: associating said plurality of area
5 codes with said plurality of area code selectors, selecting said
6 selected area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone number,
7 and causing said call to be signaled.

1 28. (new) The method of claim 12, further comprising using
2 customer premises equipment separate from and connected to a call-
3 originating device, in combination with telecommunications service
4 provider equipment separate from and connected to said customer
5 premises equipment, in further combination with said call-
6 originating device, for: associating said plurality of area codes
7 with said plurality of area code selectors, selecting said
8 selected area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone number,
9 and causing said call to be signaled.

1 29. (new) The method of claim 12, further comprising:
2 causing said call to be signaled following the user
3 specifying said seven-digit telephone number.

1 30. (new) The method of claim 12, further comprising:
2 causing said call to be signaled as a result of detecting
3 that a predetermined timing delay has expired following the user

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4 specifying said seven-digit telephone number.

1 31. (new) The method of claim 12, further comprising:

2 causing said call to be signaled as a result of the user
3 activating a predetermined data entry key.

1 32. (new) The method of claim 12, further comprising:

2 designating one of said plurality of area codes to be said
3 designated destination area code.

1 33. (new) The method of claim 32, further comprising:

2 designating one of said plurality of area codes to be said
3 designated destination area code using a "hot button."

1 34. (new) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

2 causing said call to be signaled following the user
3 specifying said seven-digit telephone number.

1 35. (new) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

2 causing said call to be signaled as a result of detecting
3 that a predetermined timing delay has expired following the user
4 specifying said seven-digit telephone number.

1 36. (new) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

2 causing said call to be signaled as a result of the user
3 activating a predetermined data entry key.

1 37. (new) The method of claim 10, said designating said

2 destination area code comprising:

3 the user designating said designated destination area code.

1 38. (new) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

2 changing said designated destination area code to a different
3 designated destination area code.

1 39. (new) The method of claim 38, further comprising:

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2 the user changing said designated destination area code to a
3 different designated destination area code.

1 40. (new) The method of claim 38, further comprising:

2 a provider of telecommunications services changing said
3 designated destination area code to a different designated
4 destination area code.

1 41. (new) The method of claim 10, said designating said
2 destination area code comprising:

3 a provider of telecommunications services designating said
4 designated destination area code.

1 42. (new) The method of claim 10, said designating said
2 destination area code comprising:

3 computerized equipment designating said designated
4 destination area code.

1 43. (new) The method of claim 10, said designating said
2 destination area code comprising:

3 designating said designated destination area code to be the
4 same as an originating area code.

1 44. (new) The method of claim 10, said designating said
2 destination area code comprising:

3 defaulting said designated destination area code to be the
4 same as an originating area code.

1 45. (new) The method of claim 10, said designating said
2 destination area code comprising:

3 designating said designated destination area code to be
4 different from an originating area code.

1 46. (new) The method of claim 10, said designating said

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2 destination area code comprising:
3 defaulting said designated destination area code to be
4 different from an originating area code.

1 47. (new) The method of claim 10, said specifying said seven-
2 digit telephone number comprising:
3 entering said seven-digit telephone number into a telephone
4 number entry device.

1 48. (new) The method of claim 10, said specifying said seven-
2 digit telephone number comprising:
3 retrieving said seven-digit telephone number from a memory.

1 49. (new) The method of claim 10, further comprising causing
2 said call to be signaled using digits representing said designated
3 destination area code in combination with digits representing said
4 specified seven-digit telephone number.

1 50. (new) The method of claim 49, further comprising causing
2 said call to be signaled using a digit "1" in combination with
3 said digits representing said designated destination area code and
4 in further combination with said digits representing said
5 specified seven-digit telephone number.

1 51. (new) The method of claim 10, further comprising causing
2 said call to be signaled using a digit "1" in combination with
3 digits representing said specified seven-digit telephone number.

1 52. (new) The method of claim 10, further comprising causing
2 said call to be signaled using signaling information representing
3 said designated destination area code in combination with
4 signaling information representing said specified seven-digit
5 telephone number.

1 53. (new) The method of claim 52, further comprising causing
2 said call to be signaled using signaling information representing
3 a "1" in combination with said signaling information representing
4 said designated destination area code and in further combination
5 with said signaling information representing said specified seven-
6 digit telephone number.

1 54. (new) The method of claim 10, further comprising causing
2 said call to be signaled using signaling information representing
3 a "1" in combination with signaling information representing said
4 specified seven-digit telephone number.

1 55. (new) The method of claim 10, further comprising using a
2 call-originating device for: designating said designated
3 destination area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone
4 number and causing said call to be signaled.

1 56. (new) The method of claim 10, further comprising using
2 customer premises equipment separate from and connected to a call-
3 originating device, in combination with a call-originating device,
4 for: designating said designated destination area code, specifying
5 said seven-digit telephone number and causing said call to be
6 signaled.

1 57. (new) The method of claim 10, further comprising using
2 telecommunications service provider equipment separate from and
3 connected to a call-originating device, in combination with said
4 call-originating device, for: designating said designated
5 destination area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone
6 number and causing said call to be signaled.

1 58. (new) The method of claim 10, further comprising using

8 causing said call to be signaled.

1 59. (new) A computerized system for simplifying telephonic
2 calling, comprising a user interface, computerized processing, and
3 computerized storage for:

4 designating a destination area code;

5 the user specifying a seven-digit telephone number; and

6 causing said call to be signaled using the designated

7 destination area code in combination with the specified seven-

8 digit telephone number, without the user entering said designated

9 destination area code when specifying said seven-digit telephone

10 number.

1 60. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:

3 determining that said designated destination area code is not

4 required to properly signal said call; and

5 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be

6 signaled without using said designated destination area code.

1 61. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:

3 associating a plurality of area code selectors with a

4 plurality of area codes;

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2 customer premises equipment separate from and connected to a call-
3 originating device, in combination with telecommunications service
4 provider equipment separate from and connected to said customer
5 premises equipment, in further combination with said call-
6 originating device, for: designating said designated destination
7 area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone number and
8 causing said call to be signaled.

1 59. (new) A computerized system for simplifying telephonic
2 calling, comprising a user interface, computerized processing, and
3 computerized storage for:
4 designating a destination area code;
5 the user specifying a seven-digit telephone number; and
6 causing said call to be signaled using the designated
7 destination area code in combination with the specified seven-
8 digit telephone number, without the user entering said designated
9 destination area code when specifying said seven-digit telephone
10 number.

1 60. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:
3 determining that said designated destination area code is not
4 required to properly signal said call; and
5 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be
6 signaled without using said designated destination area code.

1 61. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:
3 associating a plurality of area code selectors with a
4 plurality of area codes;

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5 the user selecting one of said area code selectors and
6 thereby selecting its associated area code; and
7 causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code
8 in combination with said specified seven-digit telephone number,
9 without the user entering said selected area code when specifying
10 said seven-digit telephone number.

1 62. (new) The system of claim 61, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:
3 determining that said selected area code is not required to
4 properly signal said call; and
5 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be
6 signaled without using said selected area code.

1 63. (new) The system of claim 61, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:
3 the user to associate said plurality of area code selectors
4 with said plurality of area codes.

1 64. (new) The system of claim 61, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:
3 changing at least one of the associations to a different
4 association.

1 65. (new) The system of claim 64, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:
3 the user to change at least one of the associations to a
4 different association.

1 66. (new) The system of claim 61, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:
3 a provider of telecommunications services to associate said

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4 plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area
5 codes.

1 67. (new) The system of claim 61, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:
3 computerized equipment to associate said plurality of area
4 code selectors with said plurality of area codes.

1 68. (new) The system of claim 61, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:
3 associating said plurality of area code selectors with said
4 plurality of area codes based on an area code configuration.

1 69. (new) The system of claim 68, wherein said area code
2 configuration comprises area code overlays.

1 70. (new) The system of claim 68, wherein said area code
2 configuration comprises area code splits.

1 71. (new) The system of claim 61, further comprising:
2 data entry keys, wherein said area code selector is specified
3 by activating a predetermined one of said data entry keys.

1 72. (new) The system of claim 61, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled using digits representing
5 said selected area code in combination with digits representing
6 said specified seven-digit telephone number.

1 73. (new) The system of claim 61, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled using signaling information

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5 representing said selected area code in combination with signaling
6 information representing said specified seven-digit telephone
7 number.

1 74. (new) The system of claim 61, further comprising:
2 a call-originating device for: associating said plurality of
3 area codes with said plurality of area code selectors, selecting
4 said selected area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone
5 number, and causing said call to be signaled.

1 75. (new) The system of claim 61, further comprising:
2 customer premises equipment separate from a call-originating
3 device, capable of connecting with said call-originating device,
4 for, in combination with said call-originating device, associating
5 said plurality of area codes with said plurality of area code
6 selectors, selecting said selected area code, specifying said
7 seven-digit telephone number, and causing said call to be
8 signaled.

1 76. (new) The system of claim 61, further comprising:
2 telecommunications service provider equipment separate from a
3 call-originating device, capable of connecting with said call-
4 originating device, for, in combination with said call-originating
5 device, associating said plurality of area codes with said
6 plurality of area code selectors, selecting said selected area
7 code, specifying said seven-digit telephone number, and causing
8 said call to be signaled.

1 77. (new) The system of claim 61, further comprising:
2 customer premises equipment separate from and capable of
3 connecting with a call-originating device, in combination with

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4 telecommunications service provider equipment separate from and
5 capable of connecting with said customer premises equipment, in
6 further combination with said call-originating device, for:
7 associating said plurality of area codes with said plurality of
8 area code selectors, selecting said selected area code, specifying
9 said seven-digit telephone number, and causing said call to be
10 signaled.

1 78. (new) The system of claim 61, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled following the user
5 specifying said seven-digit telephone number.

1 79. (new) The system of claim 61, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled as a result of detecting
5 that a predetermined timing delay has expired following the user
6 specifying said seven-digit telephone number.

1 80. (new) The system of claim 61, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled as a result of the user
5 activating a predetermined data entry key.

1 81. (new) The system of claim 61, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 designating one of said plurality of area codes to be said

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5 designated destination area code.

1 82. (new) The system of claim 81, further comprising:

2 a "hot button" for designating one of said plurality of area
3 codes to be said designated destination area code.

1 83. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled following the user
5 specifying said seven-digit telephone number.

1 84. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled as a result of detecting
5 that a predetermined timing delay has expired following the user
6 specifying said seven-digit telephone number.

1 85. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled as a result of the user
5 activating a predetermined data entry key.

1 86. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 the user to designate said designated destination area code.

1 87. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

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4 changing said designated destination area code to a different
5 designated destination area code.

1 88. (new) The system of claim 87, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 the user to change said designated destination area code to a
5 different designated destination area code.

1 89. (new) The system of claim 87, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 a provider of telecommunications services to change said
5 designated destination area code to a different designated
6 destination area code.

1 90. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 a provider of telecommunications services to designate said
5 designated destination area code.

1 91. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 computerized equipment to designate said designated
5 destination area code.

1 92. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 designating said designated destination area code to be the

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5 same as an originating area code.

1 93. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 defaulting said designated destination area code to be the
5 same as an originating area code.

1 94. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 designating said designated destination area code to be
5 different from an originating area code.

1 95. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 defaulting said designated destination area code to be
5 different from an originating area code.

1 96. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising:
2 a telephone number entry device, wherein said seven-digit
3 telephone number is specified by entering said seven-digit
4 telephone number into said telephone number entry device.

1 97. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising:
2 a memory, wherein said seven-digit telephone number is
3 specified by retrieving said seven-digit telephone number from
4 said memory.

1 98. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

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4 causing said call to be signaled using digits representing
5 said designated destination area code in combination with digits
6 representing said specified seven-digit telephone number.

1 99. (new) The system of claim 98, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled using a digit "1" in
5 combination with said digits representing said designated
6 destination area code and in further combination with said digits
7 representing said specified seven-digit telephone number.

1 100. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled using a digit "1" in
5 combination with digits representing said specified seven-digit
6 telephone number.

1 101. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled using signaling information
5 representing said designated destination area code in combination
6 with signaling information representing said specified seven-digit
7 telephone number.

1 102. (new) The system of claim 101, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled using signaling information

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5 representing a "1" in combination with said signaling information
6 representing said designated destination area code and in further
7 combination with said signaling information representing said
8 specified seven-digit telephone number.

1 103. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled using signaling information
5 representing a "1" in combination with signaling information
6 representing said specified seven-digit telephone number.

1 104. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising:

2 a call-originating device for: designating said designated
3 destination area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone
4 number and causing said call to be signaled.

1 105. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising:

2 customer premises equipment separate from a call-originating
3 device, capable of connecting with said call-originating device
4 for, in combination with said call-originating device: designating
5 said designated destination area code, specifying said seven-digit
6 telephone number and causing said call to be signaled.

1 106. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising:

2 telecommunications service provider equipment separate from a
3 call-originating device, capable of connecting with said call-
4 originating device for, in combination with said call-originating
5 device: designating said designated destination area code,
6 specifying said seven-digit telephone number and causing said call
7 to be signaled.

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1 107. (new) The system of claim 59, further comprising:
2 customer premises equipment separate from and capable of
3 connecting with a call-originating device, in combination with
4 telecommunications service provider equipment separate from and
5 capable of connecting with said customer premises equipment, in
6 further combination with said call-originating device, for:
7 designating said designated destination area code, specifying said
8 seven-digit telephone number and causing said call to be signaled.

1 108. (new) A method for simplifying telephonic calling,
2 comprising:
3 associating a plurality of area code selectors with a
4 plurality of area codes;
5 the user selecting one of said area code selectors and
6 thereby selecting its associated area code;
7 the user specifying a seven-digit telephone number; and
8 causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code
9 in combination with said specified seven-digit telephone number,
10 without the user entering said selected area code when specifying
11 said seven-digit telephone number.

1 109. (new) The method of claim 108, further comprising:
2 determining that said selected area code is not required to
3 properly signal said call; and
4 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be
5 signaled without using said selected area code.

1 110. (new) The method of claim 108, said associating said
2 plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes
3 comprising:

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4 the user associating said plurality of area code selectors
5 with said plurality of area codes.

1 111. (new) The method of claim 108, further comprising:
2 changing at least one of the associations to a different
3 association.

1 112. (new) The method of claim 111, further comprising:
2 the user changing at least one of the associations to a
3 different association.

1 113. (new) The method of claim 108, said associating said
2 plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes
3 comprising:
4 a provider of telecommunications services associating said
5 plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area
6 codes.

1 114. (new) The method of claim 108, said associating said
2 plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes
3 comprising:
4 computerized equipment associating said plurality of area
5 code selectors with said plurality of area codes.

1 115. (new) The method of claim 108, said associating said
2 plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area codes
3 comprising:
4 associating said plurality of area code selectors with said
5 plurality of area codes based on an area code configuration.

1 116. (new) The method of claim 115, said area code configuration
2 comprising area code overlays.

1 117. (new) The method of claim 115, said area code configuration

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2 comprising area code splits.

1 118. (new) The method of claim 108, said selecting one of said
2 area code selectors comprising:

3 activating a predetermined data entry key.

1 119. (new) The method of claim 108, further comprising causing
2 said call to be signaled using digits representing said selected
3 area code in combination with digits representing said specified
4 seven-digit telephone number.

1 120. (new) The method of claim 108, further comprising causing
2 said call to be signaled using signaling information representing
3 said selected area code in combination with signaling information
4 representing said specified seven-digit telephone number.

1 121. (new) The method of claim 108, further comprising using a
2 call-originating device for: associating said plurality of area
3 codes with said plurality of area code selectors, selecting said
4 selected area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone number,
5 and causing said call to be signaled.

1 122. (new) The method of claim 108, further comprising using
2 customer premises equipment separate from and connected to a call-
3 originating device, in combination with said call-originating
4 device, for: associating said plurality of area codes with said
5 plurality of area code selectors, selecting said selected area
6 code, specifying said seven-digit telephone number, and causing
7 said call to be signaled.

1 123. (new) The method of claim 108, further comprising using
2 telecommunications service provider equipment separate from and
3 connected to a call-originating device, in combination with said

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4 call-originating device, for: associating said plurality of area
5 codes with said plurality of area code selectors, selecting said
6 selected area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone number,
7 and causing said call to be signaled.

1 124. (new) The method of claim 108, further comprising using
2 customer premises equipment separate from and connected to a call-
3 originating device, in combination with telecommunications service
4 provider equipment separate from and connected to said customer
5 premises equipment, in further combination with said call-
6 originating device, for: associating said plurality of area codes
7 with said plurality of area code selectors, selecting said
8 selected area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone number,
9 and causing said call to be signaled.

1 125. (new) A computerized system for simplifying telephonic
2 calling, comprising a user interface, computerized processing, and
3 computerized storage for:
4 associating a plurality of area code selectors with a
5 plurality of area codes;
6 the user selecting one of said area code selectors and
7 thereby selecting its associated area code;
8 the user specifying a seven-digit telephone number; and
9 causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code
10 in combination with said specified seven-digit telephone number,
11 without the user entering said selected area code when specifying
12 said seven-digit telephone number.

1 126. (new) The system of claim 125, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:

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3 determining that said selected area code is not required to
4 properly signal said call; and
5 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be
6 signaled without using said selected area code.

1 127. (new) The system of claim 125, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:
3 the user to associate said plurality of area code selectors
4 with said plurality of area codes.

1 128. (new) The system of claim 125, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:
3 changing at least one of the associations to a different
4 association.

1 129. (new) The system of claim 128, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:
3 the user to change at least one of the associations to a
4 different association.

1 130. (new) The system of claim 125, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:
3 a provider of telecommunications services to associate said
4 plurality of area code selectors with said plurality of area
5 codes.

1 131. (new) The system of claim 125, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:
3 computerized equipment to associate said plurality of area
4 code selectors with said plurality of area codes.

1 132. (new) The system of claim 125, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:

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3 associating said plurality of area code selectors with said
4 plurality of area codes based on an area code configuration.

1 133. (new) The system of claim 132, wherein said area code
2 configuration comprises area code overlays.

1 134. (new) The system of claim 132, wherein said area code
2 configuration comprises area code splits.

1 135. (new) The system of claim 125, further comprising:
2 data entry keys, wherein said area code selector is specified
3 by activating a predetermined one of said data entry keys.

1 136. (new) The system of claim 125, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled using digits representing
5 said selected area code in combination with digits representing
6 said specified seven-digit telephone number.

1 137. (new) The system of claim 125, further comprising said user
2 interface, said computerized processing, and said computerized
3 storage for:

4 causing said call to be signaled using signaling information
5 representing said selected area code in combination with signaling
6 information representing said specified seven-digit telephone
7 number.

1 138. (new) The system of claim 125, further comprising:

2 a call-originating device for: associating said plurality of
3 area codes with said plurality of area code selectors, selecting
4 said selected area code, specifying said seven-digit telephone
5 number, and causing said call to be signaled.

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1 139. (new) The system of claim 125, further comprising:
2 customer premises equipment separate from a call-originating
3 device, capable of connecting with said call-originating device,
4 for, in combination with said call-originating device, associating
5 said plurality of area codes with said plurality of area code
6 selectors, selecting said selected area code, specifying said
7 seven-digit telephone number, and causing said call to be
8 signaled.

1 140. (new) The system of claim 125, further comprising:
2 telecommunications service provider equipment separate from a
3 call-originating device, capable of connecting with said call-
4 originating device, for, in combination with said call-originating
5 device, associating said plurality of area codes with said
6 plurality of area code selectors, selecting said selected area
7 code, specifying said seven-digit telephone number, and causing
8 said call to be signaled.

1 141. (new) The system of claim 125, further comprising:
2 customer premises equipment separate from and capable of
3 connecting with a call-originating device, in combination with
4 telecommunications service provider equipment separate from and
5 capable of connecting with said customer premises equipment, in
6 further combination with said call-originating device, for:
7 associating said plurality of area codes with said plurality of
8 area code selectors, selecting said selected area code, specifying
9 said seven-digit telephone number, and causing said call to be
10 signaled.

1 142. (new) A computer-readable medium comprising a set of

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2 instructions executable by a computerized system for simplifying
3 telephonic calling, said computer-readable medium comprising one
4 or more instructions for:
5 designating a destination area code;
6 the user specifying a seven-digit telephone number; and
7 causing said call to be signaled using the designated
8 destination area code in combination with the specified seven-
9 digit telephone number, without the user entering said designated
10 destination area code when specifying said seven-digit telephone
11 number.

1 143. (new) The computer-readable medium of claim 142, further
2 comprising one or more instructions for:
3 determining that said designated destination area code is not
4 required to properly signal said call; and
5 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be
6 signaled without using said designated destination area code.

1 144. (new) The computer-readable medium of claim 142, further
2 comprising one or more instructions for:
3 associating a plurality of area code selectors with a
4 plurality of area codes;
5 the user selecting one of said area code selectors and
6 thereby selecting its associated area code; and
7 causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code
8 in combination with said specified seven-digit telephone number,
9 without the user entering said selected area code when specifying
10 said seven-digit telephone number.

1 145. (new) The computer-readable medium of claim 144, further

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2 comprising one or more instructions for:

3 determining that said selected area code is not required to
4 properly signal said call; and

5 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be
6 signaled without using said selected area code.

1 146. (new) A computer-readable medium comprising a set of
2 instructions executable by a computerized system for simplifying
3 telephonic calling, said computer-readable medium comprising one
4 or more instructions for:

5 associating a plurality of area code selectors with a
6 plurality of area codes;

7 the user selecting one of said area code selectors and
8 thereby selecting its associated area code;

9 the user specifying a seven-digit telephone number; and
10 causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code
11 in combination with said specified seven-digit telephone number,
12 without the user entering said selected area code when specifying
13 said seven-digit telephone number.

1 147. (new) The computer-readable medium of claim 146, further
2 comprising one or more instructions for:

3 determining that said selected area code is not required to
4 properly signal said call; and

5 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be
6 signaled without using said selected area code.

1 148. (new) A method for simplifying telephonic calling,
2 comprising:

3 designating a destination area code;

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4 the user specifying a destination telephone number; and
5 causing said call to be signaled using the designated
6 destination area code in combination with the specified
7 destination telephone number, without the user entering said
8 designated destination area code when specifying said destination
9 telephone number.

1 149. (new) The method of claim 148, further comprising:

2 determining that said designated destination area code is not
3 required to properly signal said call; and

4 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be
5 signaled without using said designated destination area code.

1 150. (new) The method of claim 148, further comprising:

2 associating a plurality of area code selectors with a
3 plurality of area codes;

4 the user selecting one of said area code selectors and
5 thereby selecting its associated area code; and

6 causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code
7 in combination with said specified destination telephone number,
8 without the user entering said selected area code when specifying
9 said destination telephone number.

1 151. (new) The method of claim 150, further comprising:

2 determining that said selected area code is not required to
3 properly signal said call; and

4 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be
5 signaled without using said selected area code.

1 152. (new) A computerized system for simplifying telephonic

2 calling, comprising a user interface, computerized processing, and

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3 computerized storage for:
4 designating a destination area code;
5 the user specifying a destination telephone number; and
6 causing said call to be signaled using the designated
7 destination area code in combination with the specified
8 destination telephone number, without the user entering said
9 designated destination area code when specifying said destination
10 telephone number.

1 153. (new) The system of claim 152, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:
3 determining that said designated destination area code is not
4 required to properly signal said call; and
5 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be
6 signaled without using said designated destination area code.

1 154. (new) The system of claim 152, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:
3 associating a plurality of area code selectors with a
4 plurality of area codes;
5 the user selecting one of said area code selectors and
6 thereby selecting its associated area code; and
7 causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code
8 in combination with said specified destination telephone number,
9 without the user entering said selected area code when specifying
10 said destination telephone number.

1 155. (new) The system of claim 154, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:
3 determining that said selected area code is not required to

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4 properly signal said call; and
5 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be
6 signaled without using said selected area code.

1 156. (new) A method for simplifying telephonic calling,
2 comprising:
3 associating a plurality of area code selectors with a
4 plurality of area codes;
5 the user selecting one of said area code selectors and
6 thereby selecting its associated area code;
7 the user specifying a destination telephone number; and
8 causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code
9 in combination with said specified destination telephone number,
10 without the user entering said selected area code when specifying
11 said destination telephone number.

1 157. (new) The method of claim 156, further comprising:
2 determining that said selected area code is not required to
3 properly signal said call; and
4 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be
5 signaled without using said selected area code.

1 158. (new) A computerized system for simplifying telephonic
2 calling, comprising a user interface, computerized processing, and
3 computerized storage for:
4 associating a plurality of area code selectors with a
5 plurality of area codes;
6 the user selecting one of said area code selectors and
7 thereby selecting its associated area code;
8 the user specifying a destination telephone number; and

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9 causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code
10 in combination with said specified destination telephone number,
11 without the user entering said selected area code when specifying
12 said destination telephone number.

1 159. (new) The system of claim 158, further comprising said user
2 interface, computerized processing, and computerized storage for:

3 determining that said selected area code is not required to
4 properly signal said call; and

5 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be
6 signaled without using said selected area code.

1 160. (new) A computer-readable medium comprising a set of
2 instructions executable by a computerized system for simplifying
3 telephonic calling, said computer-readable medium comprising one
4 or more instructions for:

5 designating a destination area code;

6 the user specifying a destination telephone number; and

7 causing said call to be signaled using the designated
8 destination area code in combination with the specified
9 destination telephone number, without the user entering said
10 designated destination area code when specifying said destination
11 telephone number.

1 161. The computer-readable medium of claim 160, further
2 comprising one or more instructions for:

3 determining that said designated destination area code is not
4 required to properly signal said call; and

5 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be
6 signaled without using said designated destination area code.

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1 162. (new) The computer-readable medium of claim 160, further
2 comprising one or more instructions for:
3 associating a plurality of area code selectors with a
4 plurality of area codes;
5 the user selecting one of said area code selectors and
6 thereby selecting its associated area code; and
7 causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code
8 in combination with said specified destination telephone number,
9 without the user entering said selected area code when specifying
10 said destination telephone number.

1 163. (new) The computer-readable medium of claim 162, further
2 comprising one or more instructions for:
3 determining that said selected area code is not required to
4 properly signal said call; and
5 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be
6 signaled without using said selected area code.

1 164. (new) A computer-readable medium comprising a set of
2 instructions executable by a computerized system for simplifying
3 telephonic calling, said computer-readable medium comprising one
4 or more instructions for:
5 associating a plurality of area code selectors with a
6 plurality of area codes;
7 the user selecting one of said area code selectors and
8 thereby selecting its associated area code;
9 the user specifying a destination telephone number; and
10 causing said call to be signaled using the selected area code
11 in combination with said specified destination telephone number,

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12 without the user entering said selected area code when specifying
13 said destination telephone number.

1 165. (new) The computer-readable medium of claim 164, further
2 comprising one or more instructions for:

3 determining that said selected area code is not required to
4 properly signal said call; and

5 as a consequence of said determining, causing said call to be
6 signaled without using said selected area code.